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RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO

3RD DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Central Connecticut Coast YMCA – Stratford Branch YMCA Redevelopment in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is **Central Connecticut Coast YMCA**, located at 1240 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06511.

The \$4.75 million **Central Connecticut Coast YMCA – Stratford Branch YMCA** is requesting in funding would be used to increase their footprint to serve members of the community. For decades, the Stratford Branch Y has operated on only two acres, including 52 parking spaces, allowing no room for growth. Two residential properties located directly in front of the Y were purchased in 2020 expanding the Stratford Y's footprint by .6 acres. To be fully able to serve, however, the Y must acquire more land. Opportunities have been presented to acquire five additional properties contiguous to the Stratford Y's current parcel that would allow the Y to add an additional 1.2 acres to its footprint. Developing a new Stratford YMCA and expanding the Y's footprint will allow us to more than double the number of youth, teens, adults, and seniors served from 10,000 to 25,000. Expanding their space will allow for the expansion of their Health, Wellness, & Fitness programs; school-Age Child Care; Pre-School Child Care and School Readiness; and Summer Day Camp.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because developing a new Stratford YMCA and expanding the Y's footprint will allow them to more than double the number of youth, teens, adults and seniors served from 10,000 to 25,000. Caring, welcoming, competent, and relevant are the most prominent words that Americans use when talking about the YMCA. A community that offers Y programs and services leads to kids with better character, adults who strive for healthier lives, families that are better able to cope, and communities that come together to address challenges and celebrate successes. An investment, therefore, of \$4,755,000 in the development of the new Stratford YMCA will expand the Y's ability to strengthen the foundations of community. The Y's motto says it all – we're for youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosa L. DeLauro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress